

PILGERIM

INN

**EUROPEAN
SETTLEMENT**

1825 **LAND GRANT**

TO BARNETT LEVEY

**MacDONALDS FAMILY
RESTAURANT NOW ON PART OF
THIS LAND GRANT**

**RESEARCHING COMMUNITY HISTORY
LAND TITLES OFFICE**

Monday, 25 August, 1997

Pilgrim Inn Site, Blaxland

- 29 January, 1825
Book 28, p.9 640 acres of land promised to Barnett Levey - to be called Mount Sion.
- 7 August, 1830 Grant officially proclaimed.
- 23 November, 1830
Book D, No.135 Indenture of Mortgage by Demise - between John Wood and John Tawell. (Appn. nos.)
- 10 November, 1834
Book H, No., 531 Lease from John Wood to Isaac Williams - for 7 yrs.
- 2 & 3 February, 1835
Book H, No. 163
(Appn.nos.) Indenture of Lease and Release between Barnett Levey Manager of the Sydney Theatre and Sarah Emma, his wife - 1st part (Barnett Levey died in 1837 !)
John Wood Esq., of Lowther - 2nd part and
John Tawell, Gentleman - 3rd part.
£700 paid by John Wood to Barnett Levey and
£600 paid by John Tawell to John Wood. 960ac
- 20 May, 1857
Book 50, No. 442 Mortgage between John Outrim Wascoe and Thomas Cruttendon, Farmer, Van Diemens Land and William Perry, Gentleman, Paddington - £150. Pilgrim Inn site.
- 15 October, 1861
Book 83, No. 497. Mortgage between John Outrim Wascoe and John Taylor Esq., £400. 50ac
- 26 May, 1864
Book 88, No. 365 Conveyance of portion of land from John Outrim Wascoe and Jane Bonman (Richmond), to Commissioner for Railways. Plus Schedule of Deeds 1837-1863.
- 17 July, 1868
Book 109, No. 310. Mortgage (£600), between John Outrim Wascoe and the Trustees of the Savings Bank of New South Wales. 50ac
- 12 June, 1873
Book 149, No. 805.
(Book 120 No.816) Appointment between Elizabeth John Dooley and Alfred Dooley (late of Penrith), now Stanthorpe, Queensland, and William Deane - paid £400 - 50ac.
- Reference to indenture dated 1 August, 1870 made between the Trustees of the Savings Bank of New South Wales of the 1st part and Alfred Dooley - 2nd part, Elizabeth John Dooley - 3rd part and Walter Friend - 4th part - 50 acres. (???)

PILGRIM INN TIME LINE.

References as per Frank Walker R.A.H.S. Journal, Vol VII Pt. III, p.110.

1825	Barnet Levey	promised 320 acres on 14 July, 1825.
1830	Barnet Levey	promised 640 acres
1832	Barnet Levey	sold to William Cox, sold next day to John Wood - sale to Cox not therefore registered (Gwen Silvy, B.M.H.S.)
1834	James Evans	owned Inn
1835-8	James Outrim Wascoe	owned Inn
1838	Henry Mace	owned Inn

Licences issued as per records State Archives, Kingswood.

1832	John Wood	first registered licence
1828	15 February	house advertised for sale - let for £100 p.a.
1830	30 June	James Evans - licence
1831	14 July	James Evans
1832	10 July	James Evans - first recorded in Gazette
1833	9 July	James Evans
1834	30 June	James Evans
1834		advertised for sale
1835	3 July	Isaac Williams
1838	7 June	advertised for sale in the Gazette
1838	27 June	Lewis Lyons
1839	29 June	Lewis Lyons
1840	10 June	Francis Brownlow
1852	20 April	James Outrim Wascoe's first licence

Supplementary Information

1852	2 February	Lease bought by John Collyer and Susar. Barham
1857		Wascoe bought from H. Mace's trustees
1869	17 August	advertised for sale by J. O. Wascoe
1873	5 May	"Wascoe House" bought by William Deane (copy of sale from Lands Department).
1961	12 July	Vacuum Oil Company Proprietary Limited.
1962		William Deane, Blaxland Biologist.
1964	3 March	Ronald George Appleton and William Eric Rogers - tenants in common.
1964	4 May	Ronald George Appleton.
1968	28 November	Pilgrim Inn building destroyed in bushfire.
1970	23 March	Blue Mountains (Hardware) Supplies Pty. Ltd.
1985	21 August	John Joseph Darcy and Lynne Maree Darcy - joint tenants.
1965	28 June	Anneliese Eishauer, of Nth. Springwood.
1970	17 March	Bank of New South Wales.

1972	17 April	Maxine Claire Evans of Blaxland.
1973	5 October	Robert Peter Greentree and Robyn Joan Greentree.
1975	6 March	Philip Poston Gilbey and Joan Helene Gilbey.
1979	5 December	Swajone (?) Pty. Ltd.
1980	21 February	Blue Mountains (Hardware) Supplies Pty. Ltd.
1982	29 March	Richard Harrison and Carmela Frances Harrison, joint tenants
1983	6 June	Westpac Banking Corporation.
1984	5 June	Commonwealth Trading Bank of Australia.
1984	11 October	Robert John Hewison Deane and William Lamont Hewison - joint tenants.
1985	29 April	Carmtone Investments Pty. Limited.
1986	11 November	Commonwealth Bank of Australia.
1988	1 December	Mobil Oil Company.
1988		Purchased by McDonalds Family Restaurant.
1990	2 April	Transferred to McDonalds Family Restaurant.

NOTE: The original block occupied by Pilgrim Inn was divided into three blocks, 1, 2 and 3. Mobil Oil Company occupied block 1, and Mr. W. Deane occupied blocks 2 and 3. After Pilgrim Inn was destroyed in the bushfires of 1968 a replacement home was built for Mr. Deane on block 2, fronting Layton Avenue and a Plant Nursery and later a hardware store operated on block 3, fronting the Great Western Highway. After the sale of the plant nursery and the Mobil Garage on the corner, McDonalds Family Restaurant was built on the corner block (No. 1), and incorporated in the complex was a motor garage operated by Mobil Oil Company, now facing the Great Western Highway. Mr. Deane died, and his block was sold by his heirs and descendants. The home built for Mr. Deane was demolished and a brick building erected in its place, retaining the residential block. Ruins of the stables which were originally at the rear of Mr. Deane's house were retained and preserved by Mc Donalds and are all that remain of the historic buildings that once stood on this block of land so important to the heritage of the area.

LORD BYRON INN TIMELINE.

1838	23 June	George Turner
1839	29 June	James Shaw
1842	1 February	advertised for sale - R.A.H.S. Journal, Vol. IV, Pt. 5, p.477.

PILGRIM INN, BLAXLAND.

For many years, Pilgrim Inn has been the subject of much conjecture as to whether it was the first Inn at Blaxland. Many articles were written in the journals of the Royal Australian Historical Society in the 1920s arguing this question back and forth, but the facts speak for themselves.

Pilgrim Inn, as we know it today, are the ruins behind McDonald's Family Restaurant, on the corner of the Great Western Highway and Layton Avenue, Blaxland, and is 38 1/2 miles from Sydney.

Barnett Levey, the first free immigrant ^{of} Jew, was promised a grant of land on Lapstone Hill, in 1825. (All of the area at the top of the hill in those days was known as Lapstone).

By 1826 Barnett Levey had organised for John Knatchbull and a team of convicts to build a "caravansary", on the grant of William Cordeaux returning to Sydney after a surveying trip in June 1828, described the buildings as "a good sized wetherboard house of four rooms,with out-houses, piggery, stables, etc.

This must have been the first of two Pilgrim Inns. Barnett Levey was promised a further 640 acres and it is on this second grant of land that the ruins of the second Pilgrim Inn stand today. Barnett Levey experienced financial difficulties and in 1830 the property was sold by the sherrif. The property was bought by John Wood.

The first licence for Pilgrim Inn was issued in 1830 to James Evans and it was to the second building that this licence was issued. The Inn must have been built sometime during 1830. This is borne out by the fact that in 1832, Wood wrote several letters to the Colonial Secretary, Alexander McLeay, asking for the intervention of the Governor, Sir Richard Bourke, regarding the route of Thomas Mitchell's Pass Road because the original plan was to take the road to the south of the Inn, and this was going to cost Wood a great deal of money. This route would have necessitated the removal of the stables, stores etc. as well as him having to construct a new front to the building so that it faced the road. The final route where it is today to the north of the Pilgrim Inn site was a compromise

acceptable by all parties concerned and it saved Wood the unnecessary expensive alterations.

Barnett Levey named the valley through which Mitchell's Pass travels as the Valley of Jehosophat and the creek he called the Creek Kedron. (The creek is now piped at its beginning but the remainder is the same as it was when the local Darugs used the valley as a route up the mountains before the Europeans came.) The streets around what is now Glenbrook such as Olivet Street, Tabor Street, Carmel Street and Kedron Street are streets on Levey's second grant, hence the Jewish names.

Pilgrim Inn had an interesting career with a succession of licens^ees as follows -

1830	John Wood	purchased
	property from Barnett Levey	
1830	James Evans	30 June
	held first licence	
1831	James Evans	14 July,
	licensee	
1832	James Evans	10 July,
	licensee	
1833	James Evans	9 July,
	licensee	
1834	James Evans	30 June,
	licensee	
1835	Isaac Williams	3 July,
	licensee	
1838	Lewis Lyons	27 June,
	licensee	
1839	Lewis Lyons	29 June,
	licensee	
1840	Francis Brownlow	10 June,
	licensee	
1852	John Outrim Wascoe	20 April,
	licensee	

John Wascoe purchased the property in 1857, and it was he who held the last licence. For many years the Pilgrim Inn was also known as Wascoe's and the town of Blaxland itself in the beginning was known as Wascoes. The railway station ^{opened} on 11 July 1867, was named Wascoes and the postal address was also Wascoes. The Railway changed the name of the station to Blaxland on 21 April, 1879 and because of confusion caused by the two names, the Post Office changed to Blaxland in 1914.

On 5 May, 1873 Pilgrim Inn was bought by William Deane, a Solicitor in Sydney, as a country residence and for many years the Inn was used as the family holiday home, also catering for guests. After some years the Inn because of disuse, fell into disrepair until William Deane's son William took up residence. William Jnr. carried out some renovations and repairs and lived there until the Inn was destroyed in the 1968 bushfires.

Pilgrim Inn had an excellent reputation being described in 1921 by Frank Walker, FRAHS, as "one of the cleanest and most convenient in the country". Comments made by Louisa Ann Meredith in 1839 and attributed in some places as referring to the Inn appear to be inconsistent with the more generally accepted view of the accommodation at Pilgrim Inn. However she could have been referring to the first building, (constructed in 1826), as it also operated as an Inn from 1838 to 1842, and is believed to have been the Late Lord Byron Inn. Certainly both Inns were operating at this time and since there is a clear record of the licensees of Pilgrim Inn on its present site, this is the only logical conclusion. References to Elizabeth Hawkins staying at the Pilgrim Inn are incorrect. Elizabeth Hawkins travelled across the mountains in 1822 and Barnett Levey did not even have his first grant until 1825.

Toby Ryan in his *Reminiscences of Australia*, claims that William Williams built the Inn. There is no documentation for this and it is most unlikely since Barnett Levey named the Inn. No Williams appears on the list of owners or licensees until 1835 and that was Isaac Williams. Historians would do well to remember that Toby Ryan's book is "reminiscences" of a man in his 70s and that is all that it is, "reminiscences". Toby himself writes that "if the reader looks foror expects the 'dignity of history' where only something very much more modest in character is intended", they will be under a misapprehension. Although many people refer to Toby's book it should not be regarded as a true historic record of events. Toby includes no documentation in his book to confirm any of the comments he makes.

The most notable event in the history of Pilgrim Inn was Sir Frederick William Pottinger's accl-

dent. Again the facts have been confused but Police Records give the true story. Pottinger was travelling to Sydney to appear in court and the carriage he was travelling in stopped at Pilgrim Inn, on Sunday, 5 March, 1865. As he was re-boarding the coach his pistol went off wounding him in the leg. He was admitted to hospital on his arrival in Sydney, and five weeks later on the 9 April, 1865, he died as a result of his wounds. He is buried in St. Jude's Churchyard, Randwick. A display of relevant artifacts can be seen in the McDonald's Restaurant at Blaxland, now situated on the site of Pilgrim Inn. This is one of McDonald's finest displays. The ruins of the Inn have been preserved *in situ* at the back of the Restaurant.

Barnett Levey's grant was one of the first grants on the mountains and Pilgrim Inn was one of the earliest European buildings. A significant link with the early colonial days was lost when Pilgrim Inn was destroyed in the bushfires of 1968. The Inn's importance to the town is emphasised by the fact the railway station was placed where it is because of the close vicinity of the Inn and the town of Blaxland grew up around the railway station and the Inn. Many other historic sites exist in Blaxland but the Pilgrim Inn site is by far the most significant.

Pilgrim Inn was at the junction of Cox's Road (1814), the Zig Zag Road (now the Old Bathurst Road)(1824), and Mitchell's Pass (1834), and was a popular stopping place after the long climb up Lapstone Hill from Emu Plains. There must have been some wonderful stories that could have been told by those who travelled across the mountains and stayed at the Inn, especially in the days when travelling was done by coach and the Inns were few and far between.

After the bushfires of 1968, several accommodation buildings were erected on the mountains for the benefit of those who had lost their homes. One of these such buildings was erected on the foundations of the old Inn. A Garden Nursery, called The Old Pilgrim Garden Centre, and then a hardware store operated on the block behind and a motor garage was erected on the corner of Layton Avenue and the Great Western Highway. These buildings have all been removed and the site is now occupied by McDonalds Family Restaurant and garage com-

plex, still carrying on the tradition of catering for travellers across the Blue Mountains. The nearest accommodation these days is available at Springwood.

Barbara Higginson,

Member of NDHS Inc.



23 June, 1996.

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Shepherds Toll Bar

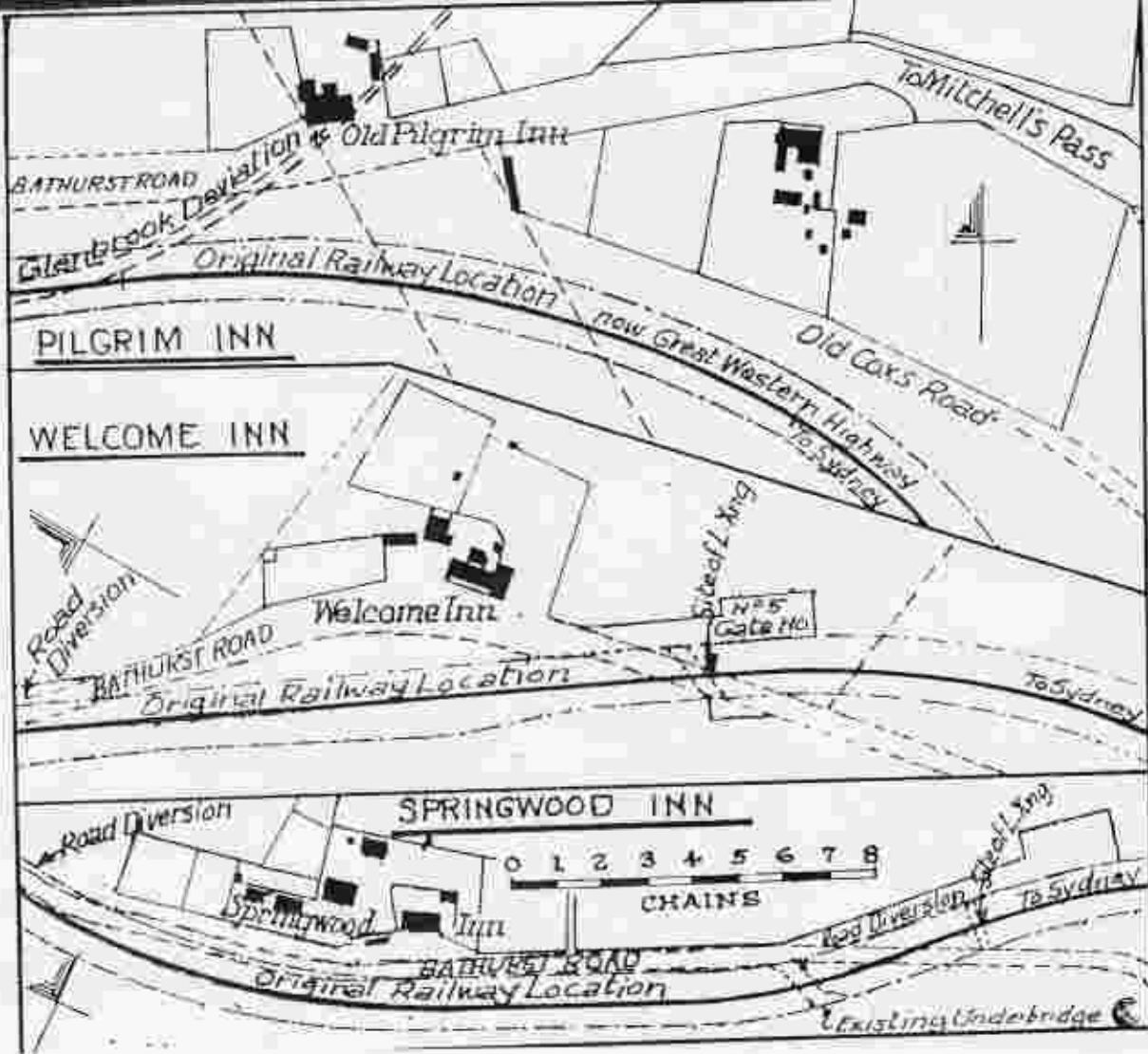
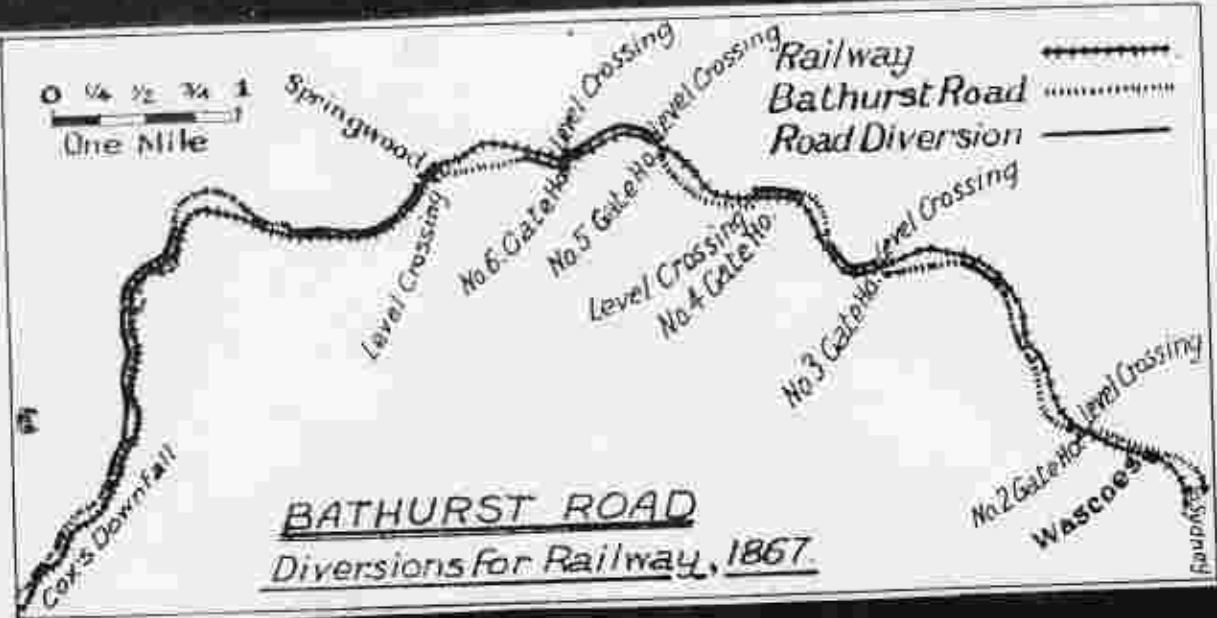
Bathurst

Inn of

Railway

From Sydney Line

CHAINS





PILGRIM INN c1900's.



PILGRIM INN, c1960's.
Marie Hurley Collection.







PILGRIM INN, c mid 1900's.
Local History Collection, Springwood Library.



FAMILY GROUP OF DEANE FAMILY. W.M. DEANE [] CENTRE OF PHOTO.
Deane Collection, Fisher Library, Sydney University.

"Waseet House" (Pilgrim Inn) Beesland, formerly
Bessmore, with three family groups besides
with home suite. (and the little home maid)
having a quiet look through the door.
(About 1880-90)

Podium
Crowning
in
DANGER
(Crowning)

DE AN
M

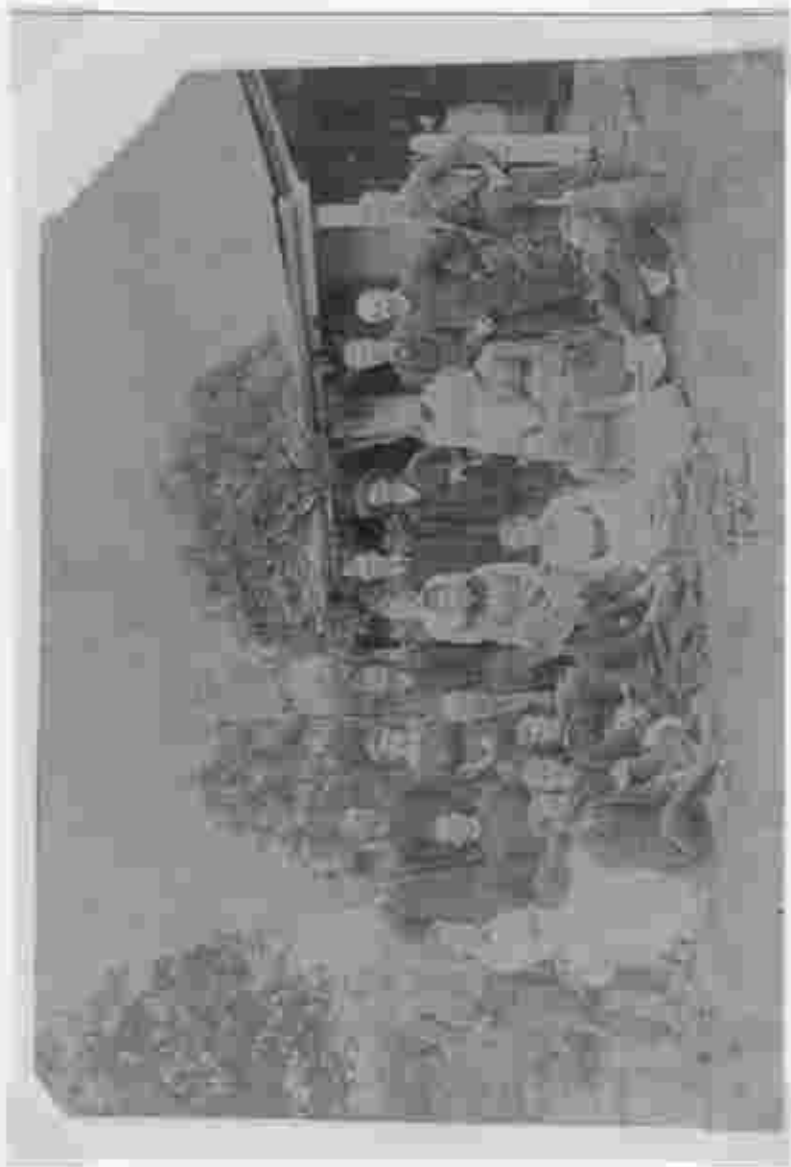
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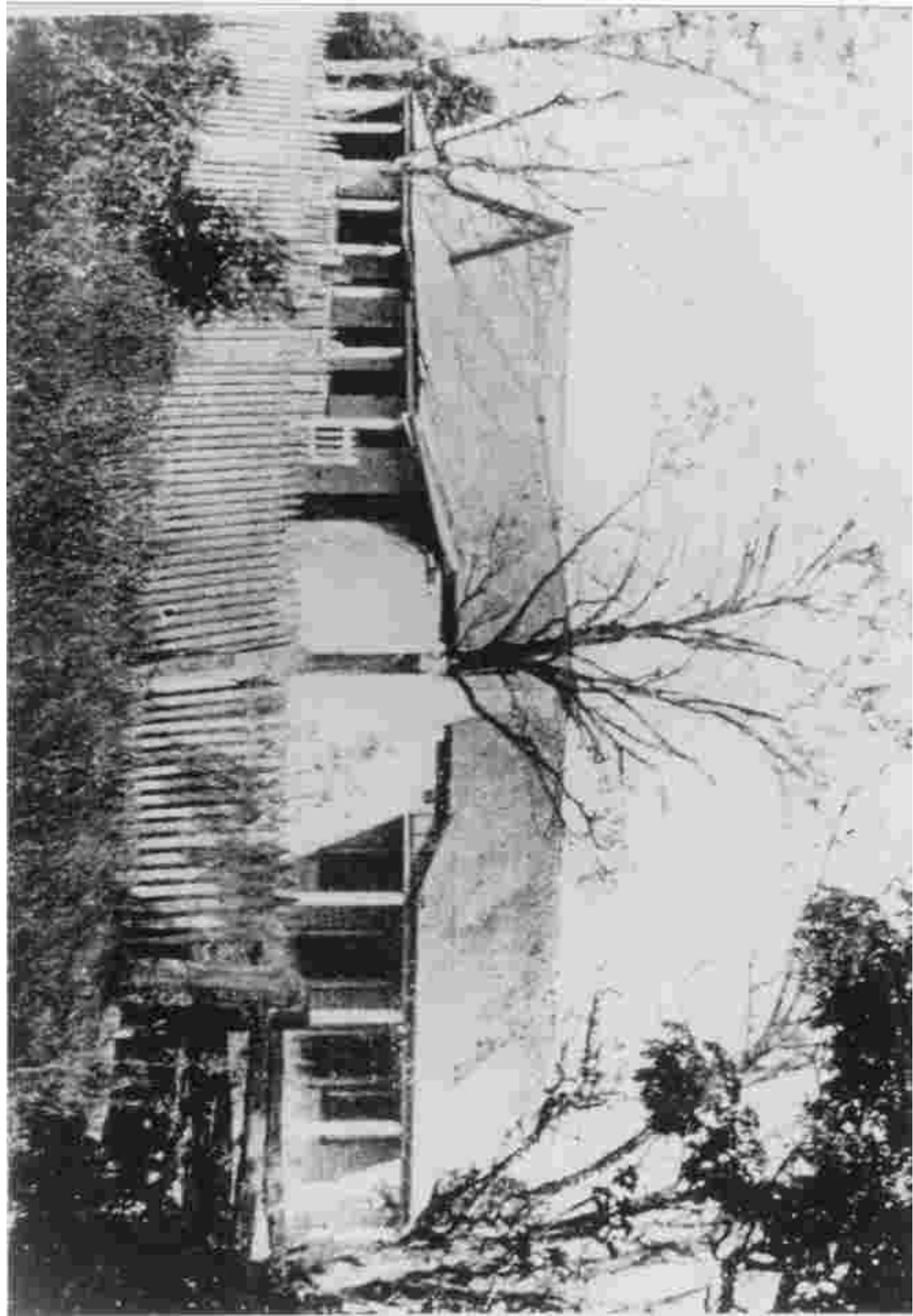
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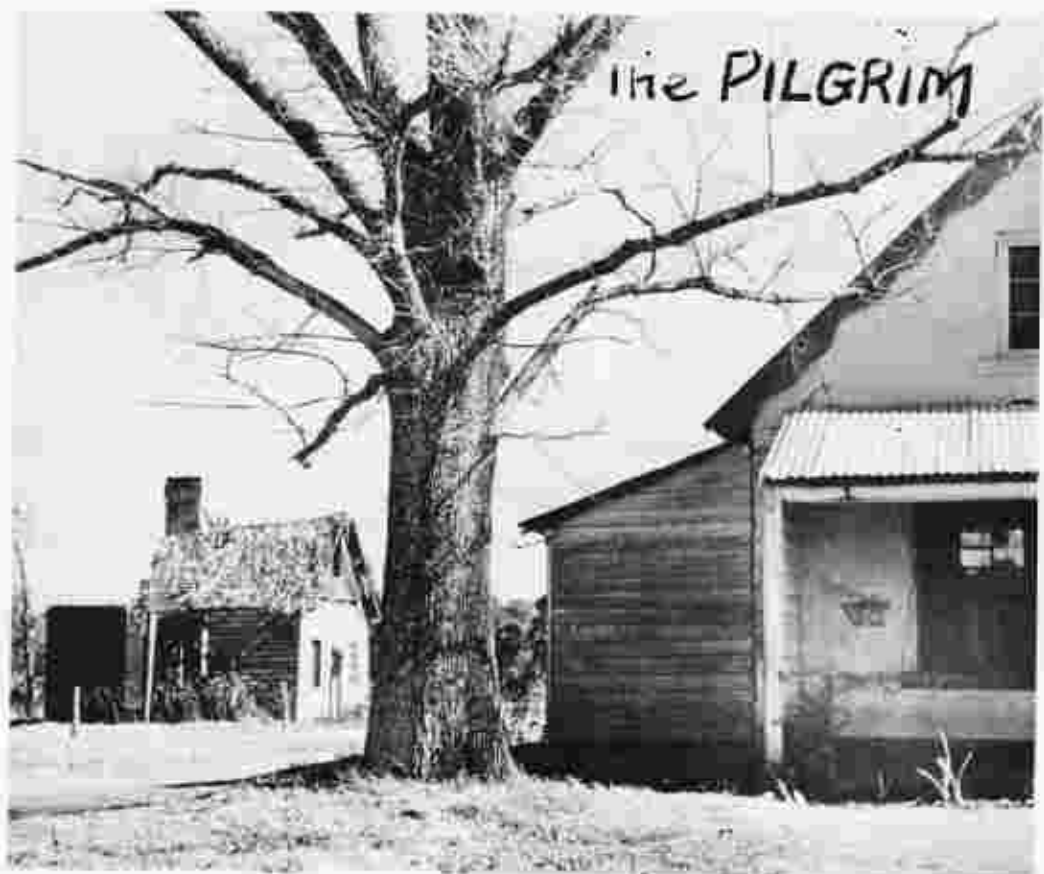
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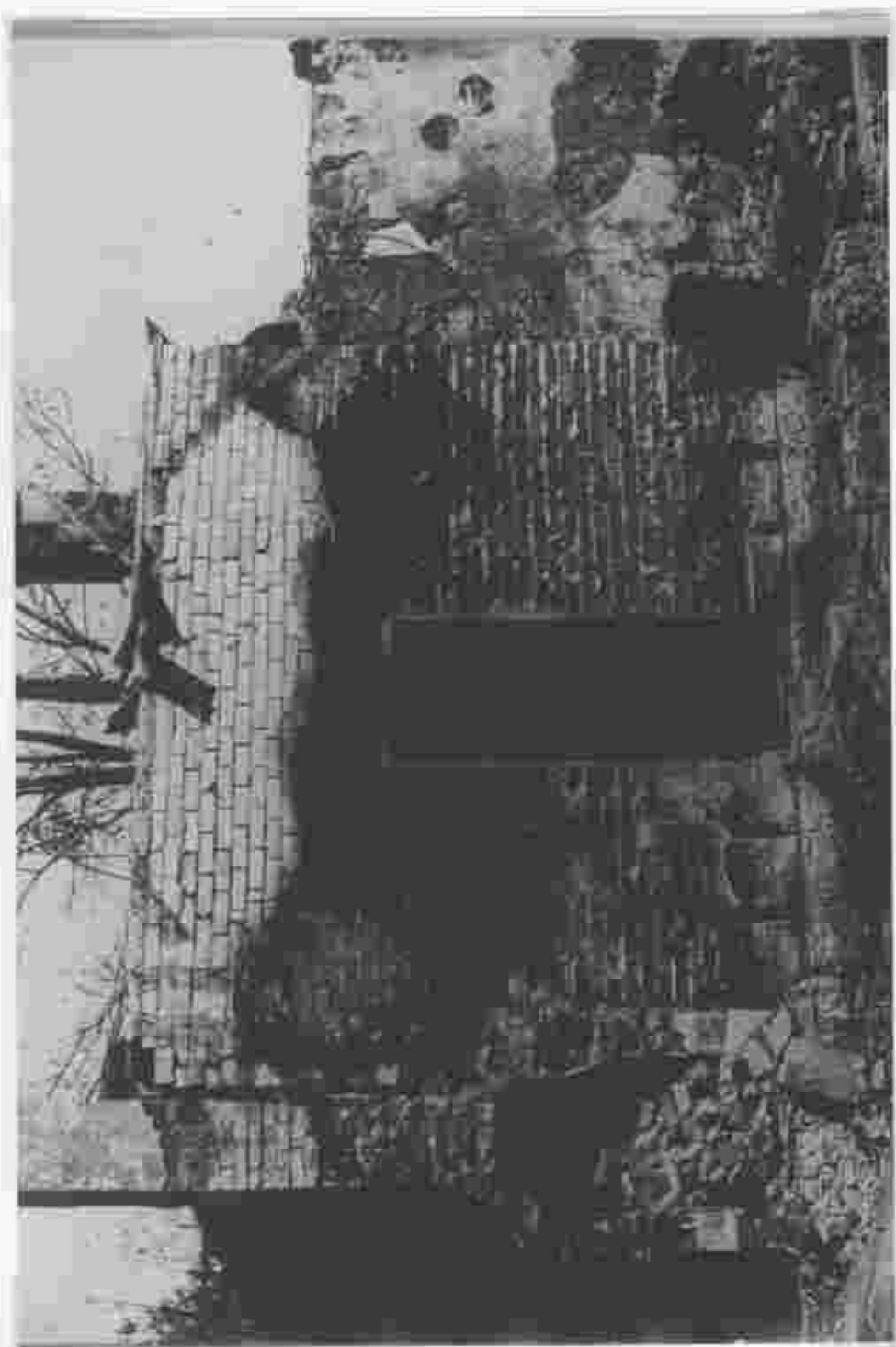


PILGRIM INN, c early 1900s-1920s.
Mitchell Library Collection.



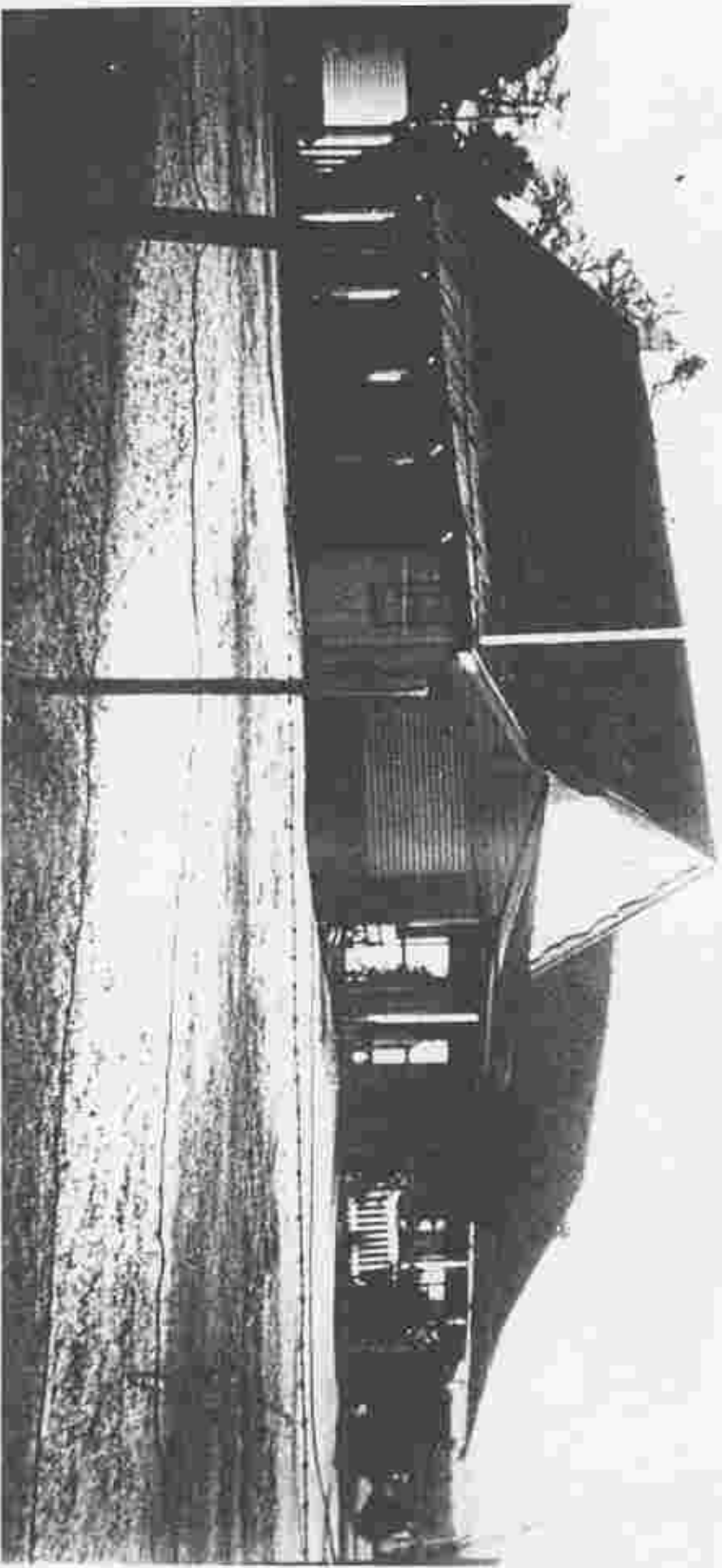
Lake Lord Byron
Inn
Built c 1826







PILGRIM INN, c early 1900's.
Mitchell Library Collection.









These walls are all that remain of the
Pilgrim's Inn (Circa 1825 - 1830).
It was near by that the notable colonial
policeman, Sir Frederick Pottinger
was fatally wounded in 1865.
(Full information and display inside Restaurant)

The A.P.H. for October.



THE OLD COACH HOUSE, PIERCE INN, BEAULACHE

1901-1902

BLAXLAND, N.S.W. - HOTELS - PILGRIM INN

PLEASE DO NOT

Blaxland, N.S.W. - Pilgrim Inn



Blaxland, N.S.W. - Pilgrim Inn

1827-28. The Pilgrim Inn, Blaxland, situated in 1827, was the first inn in Blaxland and was situated on the great "bar" of the main Western Road. With the arrival of the railway in 1831, the inn was demolished and a private residence.

at Blaxland 354, under the history, but not in all previous years.

Found in a 300 year old (1745/18) Newell diary. Site's Road, by the R.R., and McCallum Road's
 landmarks are all gone. Some of the main buildings were later killed by a severe fire.

Building was mostly weathered and (1845), most were dismantled, and things were
 or were not found anywhere, things were not scattered.

Historian had seen things
 James Brown (1845) saw the ruins of the inn in 1845-1846. The ruins were

(1855-56) Henry Jones (1851) built 1850.

When and in 1818, the ruins were 18 years, but was not in 1819 from 1818.

The ruins were again all but buried again in 1853 - not in 1859.

When he left, he became prominent in the region, as he was in the region of
 London & made at least that was the history, then 1845, found at 1853
 something in 1845.

1853 On the street of the history, the ruins were all but of the history of the history.

BLAXLAND, N.S.W. - HOWFIELD - PILGRIM INN

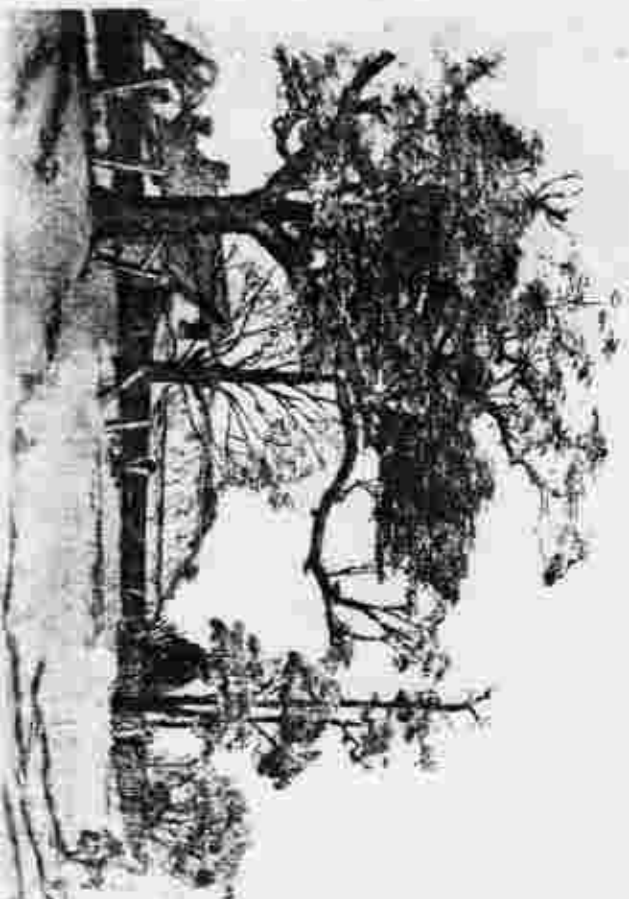
PLATE NO. 1001 1914

BLAXLAND - HOWFIELD - PILGRIM INN



PILGRIM INN, BLAXLAND

Built 1826. The first inn west of Sydney in the colony.





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These walls are all that remain of the Pilgrim's Inn (Circa 1825 - 1830). It was near by that the notable colonial policeman, Sir Frederick Pottinger was fatally wounded in 1865.
(Full information and display inside Restaurant)

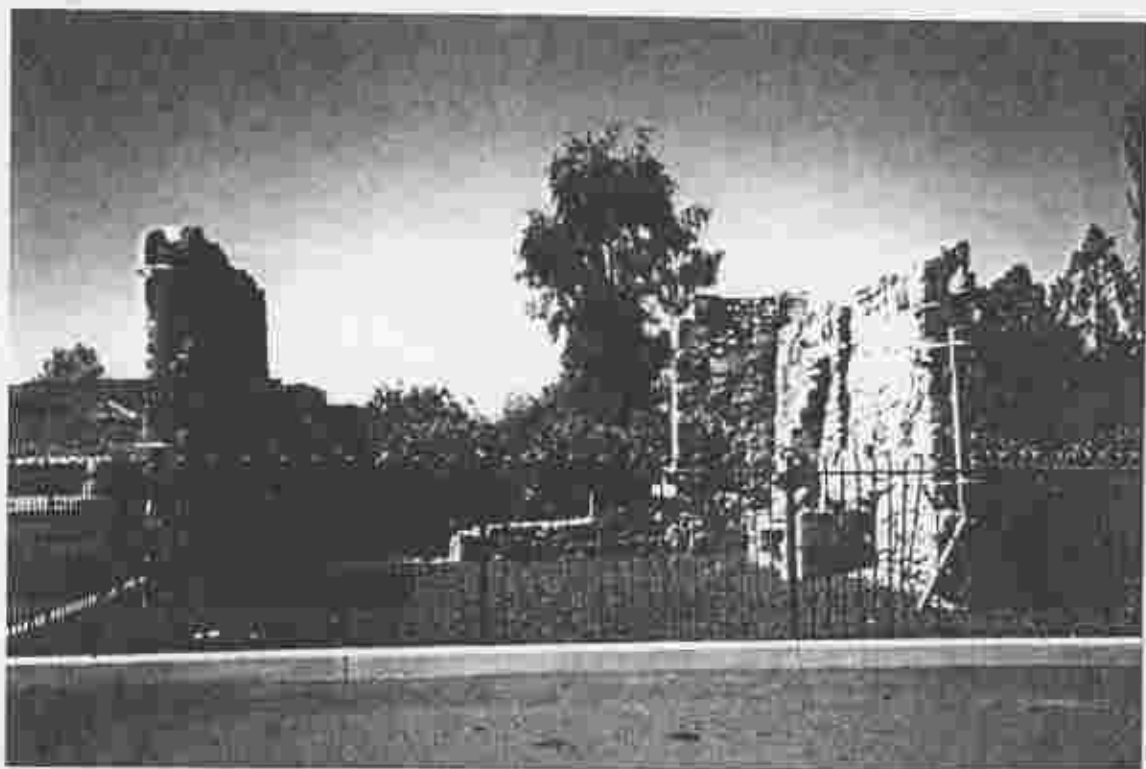




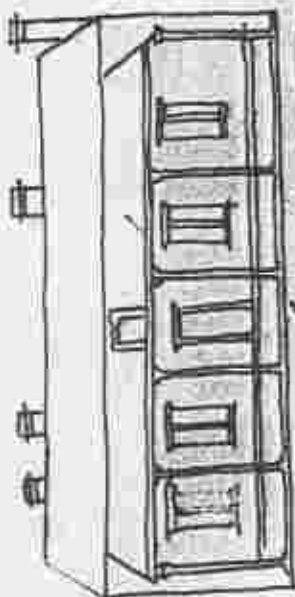


PILGRIM INN

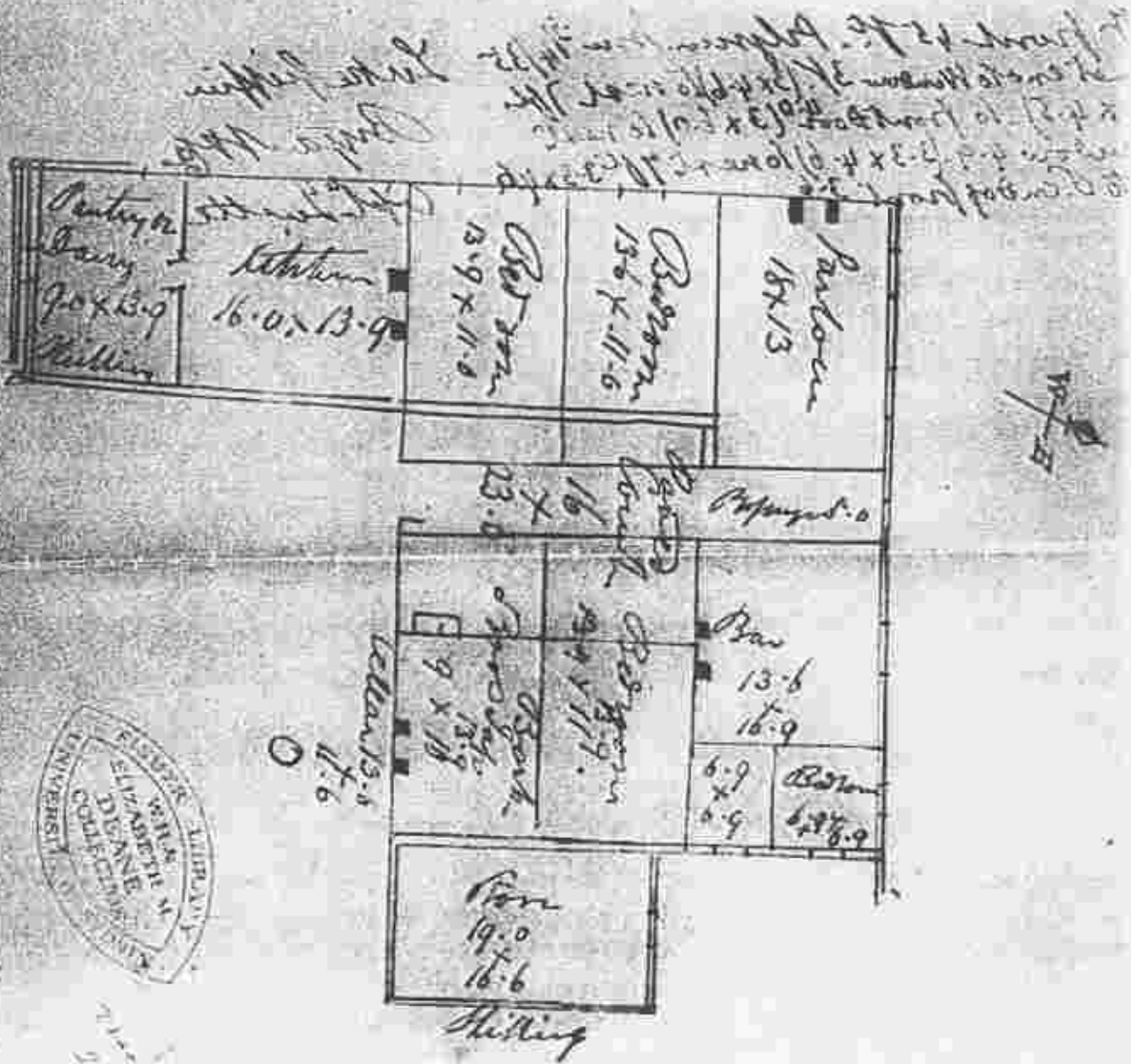
Photo located in Local History Collection Blue Mountains City Library.
Undated.



PILGRIM INN after the 1968 fires.
Author's Collection.



LIBRARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
 DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE
 157
 C. J. Young, Esq., Toronto, Ont.
 1854



ELIZABETH WILKINSON
 COLLECTOR
 UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

9.0 x 13.9
 Dining
 13.0 x 16.0
 Parlor
 19.0 x 16.6
 Hallway

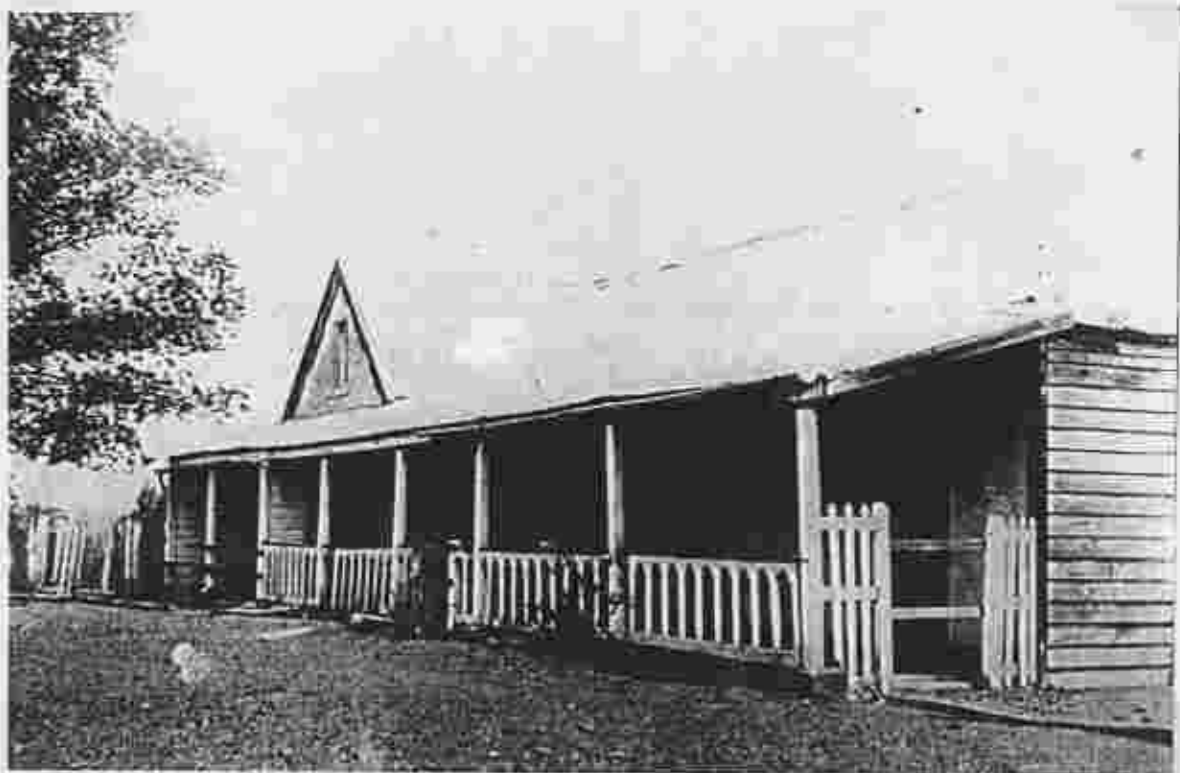
1854







1. PILGRIM INN, BUILT ^{C. 1826} ~~1826~~. NOTE THE BLOC. IS ON NORTH SIDE OF ROAD.
 BELIEVED TO BE
 LOCAL STUDIOS' HEAD.



2. PILGRIM INN IN THE 1890S.
 LOCAL STUDIOS' HEAD.





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